

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent article, comprising :
a first end portion and a second end portion, which portions are intended at least partly to enclose a user's waist area during use of the article, and an intermediate crotch portion,

said portions comprising an inner layer, which inner layer is turned towards the user during use and which inner layer is liquid-permeable at least in the crotch portion adapted to be opposite the user's genitals, a liquid-impermeable outer layer, and an absorbent body disposed between said outer and inner layers,

said article including in the area of the second end portion at least two mechanical tape fasteners, the mechanical tape fasteners adapted to be, upon application of the article, detachably interconnected with at least one fastening part disposed on the outer layer of the first end portion and being complementary to said mechanical tape fasteners, wherein the two mechanical tape fasteners are oppositely arranged on the inner layer of the article at opposite side portions of said second end portion, the two mechanical tape fasteners each have one longitudinal and one transverse extension, said mechanical tape fasteners are each permanently joined to the inner layer of the article by means of a producer's bonding face arranged on a first end part of each of the tape fasteners, a user's bonding face is arranged on an opposite second end part of each of the tape fasteners, and wherein

prior to use of the article, the tape fasteners are arranged in a folded storage condition, each one of said tape fasteners being formed with an odd number of folds and both said producer's bonding face and said user's bonding face being turned towards the inner layer of the article in the storage condition, the second end parts of the two tape fasteners extend toward one another in said storage condition and in the storage condition of said article, each of the tape fasteners includes a first fold part that is joined to at least one other fold part by means of a bond, said bond being breakable in order to secure the user's bonding face to said at least one fastening part, and wherein in their condition of storage, the tape fasteners are arranged in their entirety on the inner layer, with laterally outermost end edges of the tape fasteners being located interiorly of lateral edges of said opposite side portions;

wherein the mechanical tape fasteners comprise one fold only and wherein the one fold forms the laterally outermost end edge of each tape fastener in said storage condition, in each of said tape fasteners the first fold part by means of said breakable bond is connected to the first end part and covers the latter, said first end part being the other fold part and in each of said tape fasteners when the user's bonding face is in said folded storage condition, the opposite second end part is located laterally interiorly of the first end part;

wherein each user's bonding face is in the form of hooks of a hook-and-loop fastener and the complementary fastening part being formed with apertures, loops or fibre filaments for co-operation with the hooks; and

wherein the inner layer of the article comprises fibers to which the hooks of each bonding face fasten to form a weak bond relative to a bond of the hook-and-

loop fastener and said breakable bond between the first fold part and the first end part.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The article as claimed in claim 1 [[3]], wherein an outermost end piece of the second end part of each of the mechanical tape fasteners is coated with a pressure-sensitive adhesive providing a weak adhesion force.

7. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein each breakable bond is designed to ensure that a force in the range of 0.2 to 2N is required to separate from one another joined-together tape-fastener strips having a width of 40mm.

8. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein each breakable bond is in the form of a pattern of points or lines, and the bond is breakable without damage to the tape fastener.

9. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mechanical tape fasteners have a width of between 30 and 10 mm.

10. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the mechanical tape fasteners comprise at least one elastic part disposed between the first end part and the second end part, said elastic part arranged to stretch upon occurrence of load during use of the article.

11. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mechanical tape fasteners do not stretch upon occurrence of load during use of the article.

12. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the article is a baby diaper or an incontinence diaper.

13. (Previously presented) The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein each breakable bond is designed to ensure that a force in the range of 0.5 to 1.5N is required to separate from one another joined-together tape-fastener strips having a width of 40mm.

14. (New) A disposable absorbent article, comprising :
a first end portion and a second end portion, which portions are intended at least partly to enclose a user's waist area during use of the article, and an intermediate crotch portion,

said portions comprising an inner layer, which inner layer is turned towards the user during use and which inner layer is liquid-permeable at least in the crotch portion adapted to be opposite the user's genitals, a liquid-impermeable outer layer, and an absorbent body disposed between said outer and inner layers,

said article including in the area of the second end portion at least two mechanical tape fasteners, the mechanical tape fasteners adapted to be, upon application of the article, detachably interconnected with at least one fastening part disposed on the outer layer of the first end portion and being complementary to said mechanical tape fasteners, wherein the two mechanical tape fasteners are oppositely arranged on the inner layer of the article at opposite side portions of said second end portion, the two mechanical tape fasteners each have one longitudinal and one transverse extension, said mechanical tape fasteners are each permanently joined to the inner layer of the article by means of a producer's bonding face arranged on a first end part of each of the tape fasteners, a user's bonding face is arranged on an opposite second end part of each of the tape fasteners, and wherein prior to use of the article, the tape fasteners are arranged in a folded storage condition, each one of said tape fasteners being formed with an odd number of folds and both said producer's bonding face and said user's bonding face being turned towards the inner layer of the article in the storage condition, the second end parts of the two tape fasteners extend toward one another in said storage condition and in the storage condition of said article, each of the tape fasteners includes a first fold part that is joined to at least one other fold part by means of a bond, said bond being breakable in order to secure the user's bonding face to said at least one fastening part, and wherein in their condition of storage, the tape fasteners are arranged in

their entirety on the inner layer, with laterally outermost end edges of the tape fasteners being located interiorly of lateral edges of said opposite side portions;

wherein each user's bonding face is in the form of hooks of a hook-and-loop fastener and the complementary fastening part being formed with apertures, loops or fibre filaments for co-operation with the hooks; and

wherein the inner layer of the article comprises fibers to which the hooks of each bonding face fasten to form a weak bond relative to a bond of the hook-and-loop fastener and said breakable bond between the first fold part and the first end part.

15. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein the mechanical tape fasteners comprise one fold only and wherein the one fold forms the laterally outermost end edge of each tape fastener in said storage condition, in each of said tape fasteners the first fold part by means of said breakable bond is connected to the first end part and covers the latter, said first end part being the other fold part and in each of said tape fasteners when the user's bonding face is in said folded storage condition, the opposite second end part is located laterally interiorly of the first end part.

16. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein an outermost end piece of the second end part of each of the mechanical tape fasteners is coated with a pressure-sensitive adhesive providing a weak adhesion force.

17. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein each breakable bond is designed to ensure that a force in the range of 0.2 to 2N is required to separate from one another joined-together tape-fastener strips having a width of 40mm.

18. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein each breakable bond is in the form of a pattern of points or lines, and the bond is breakable without damage to the tape fastener.

19. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein the mechanical tape fasteners have a width of between 30 and 10 mm.

20. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein each of the mechanical tape fasteners comprise at least one elastic part disposed between the first end part and the second end part, said elastic part arranged to stretch upon occurrence of load during use of the article.

21. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein the mechanical tape fasteners do not stretch upon occurrence of load during use of the article.

22. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein the article is a baby diaper or an incontinence diaper.

23. (New) The article as claimed in claim 14, wherein each breakable bond is designed to ensure that a force in the range of 0.5 to 1.5N is required to separate from one another joined-together tape-fastener strips having a width of 40mm.